(d) the number of cases relating to public utility services transferred, so far, from courts to permanent Lok Adalats in various States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Public utility services proposed to be covered by Lok Adalats are:

(i) transport service for the carriage of passengers or goods by air, road or water; or

(ii) postal, telegraph or telephone services; or

(iii) supply of power, light or water to the public by any establishment;

(iv) system of public conservancy or sanitation; and

(v) service in hospital or dispensary; or

(vi) insurance service;

and include any service which the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, may in the public interest, by notification, declare to be a public utility service for this purpose.

(c) and (d) The Government is in the process of finalizing the terms and conditions of appointment of Chairmen and other Members who would constitute Permanent Lok Adalats. The process of establishment of the Permanent Lok Adalats will be expedited after the notification in this regard is issued by the Government.

Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill

2607. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Law Commission has drafted Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill;

(b) if so, the main features of the Bill;

(c) whether this Bill has been cleared by his Ministry; and

(d) by when this would be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) to (d) The 166th Report of the Law Commission on 'The Corrupt Public Servants (Forfeiture of Property) Bill', which also contained a draft Bill on the subject as well as its main features, was laid on the Table of the House on 27.10.1999. The Report was examined in consultation with legal experts who have expressed their opinion that instead of enacting a separate legislation it would be appropriate if the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 is amended in such a way as to make it more deterrent. It was felt that it would be a better way to achieve the objective of rooting out corruption.

Cases of Government Staff pending in various High Courts

2608. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the large number of cases related to service matter of central and State Government staff are pending in various High Courts for years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State wise;

(c) whether the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has recommended that these cases be taken away from High Courts and resolved in the permanent Lok Adalats;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.